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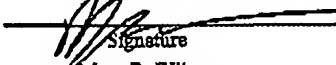
EXPEDITED PROCESSING
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 1.116

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 0492479-0054 (MGH 2172 US)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|--------------|---|-----------|--------------------|
| Applicant: | Kinstler <i>et al.</i> | Examiner: | Irina Sophia Zemel |
| Serial No.: | 10/622,998 | Art Unit: | 1711 |
| Filing Date: | July 18, 2003 | | |
| Title: | PROTEIN CONJUGATES WITH A WATER-SOLUBLE BIOCOMPATIBLE, BIODEGRADABLE POLYMER | | |

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Final Office Action mailed on January 25, 2006 for the above-identified application. The shortened statutory deadline for response to the Office Action was April 25, 2006. Applicant requests a three-month extension of time from April 25, 2006 to and including July 25, 2006. Thus, the filing of this response on July 24, 2006 is timely. Responsive to that Office Action, Applicant respectfully requests entrance of the following Amendment and consideration of the following Remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

Conclusions begin on page 7 of this paper.

This Amendment is believed to be in compliance with the Revised Amendment Format published in the Federal Register on June 30, 2003 (68 FR 38611), and therefore to be exempt from the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(a)-(d).

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